# The Romulus News

FEBRUARY 6, 1998 - FEBRUARY 19, 1998

"the little paper"

**VOLUME 11 NUMBER 14** 

## Timely Tidbits ...

## Property Tax Deadline Approaches

Romulus City Treasurer Pamela Kersey reports that, since the statutory deadline for paying 1997's property taxes without a late penalty falls on a Saturday (February 14), and since the following Monday (February 16) is a holiday, the payment deadline has been extended to Tuesday, February 17. For more information, please call the Treasurer's office: 942-7580.

## **Crafters Wanted**

Romulus High School's Class of 1998 will host a Spring Thing Fling Craft Show in the High School cafeteria on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Funds raised from the craft show will be used to offset the cost of various senior-class activities (prom, etc.).

"We were so pleased with the success of last year's event," said Rosalie Berlinn, class advisor. "The students really appreciated the support of the many residents who stopped by to shop or just look around.

"We hope that this year's craft show will be even better attended," she added.

Crafters interested in participating in the Spring Thing Fling can purchase table space for \$25; registration will be limited to the first 100 applicants.

For more information, please call either Berlinn (941-2170, ext. 162) or Lynne Cadden, secretary (ext. 149).

## Citizens Beware!

Citizens are advised to be on the lookout for a peddler who is violating a City ordinance (Chapter 23, Article 2, Sec. 23-20) by approaching residents and trying to sell them fresh meat directly from his truck. According to Hulen Yates, Director of the Romulus Ordinance Department, the ordinance states, "No person shall sell or peddle fresh meat upon any street, alley or public place."

For more information, please call 942-6851. 

□

## **Closed-door Meeting Angers Residents**



**Mayor William Oakley** 

By Kristi Stephens

A closed-door meeting held at Romulus City Hall on February 2 – and allegedly attended by members of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Senator Loren Bennett (R–Canton), and representatives of the City of Romulus, the City of Taylor, and Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP) – left several residents of the two communities feeling angry at being excluded.

Reportedly, the purpose of the meeting was to give opponents of Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc.'s (EDS') proposed deep-well facilities yet another chance to justify their demand that the DEQ deny the company's permit application for its Citrin Drive site.

"What's the big secret?" asked Romulus resident Dolores Witzgall, a private citizen who called Mayor William Oakley's office and asked permission to sit in on the meeting, but was denied. "You would think that if RECAP and others have finally come up with *legitimate* concerns about this project, they would want the whole world to hear!"

Witzgall said that she would not have resented the fact that the meeting was closed to the general public and members of the press if representatives of the "pro-settlement" segment of the communities had been invited, too.

"Since the people from the DEQ aren't from this area, and haven't had an opportunity to follow the lengthy controversy that has surrounded these projects, they have only limited knowledge of local residents' various view-

points," she explained. "By allowing only people who are against a settlement to participate in the meeting, the anti-well faction tried to give the DEQ the impression that *everyone* in Romulus and Taylor wants our cities to continue to fight EDS, regardless of the cost.

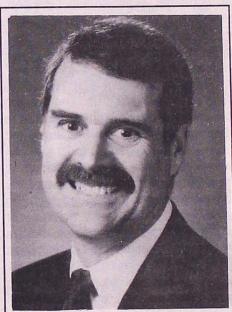
"But that just isn't true."

The question of which party(ies) wanted the meeting closed remains unclear.

When Mayor Oakley refused to allow *The Romulus News* to attend, he maintained that he, personally, had no objection to having the press present, but that other "invitees" (whom he declined to name) opposed the idea. Also denying that the meeting was closed at their request were Senator Bennett and spokespersons for the DEQ.

"Had the DEQ been the agency that called the meeting, it would have been open to the public," stated Hal Fitch, Supervisor of Mineral Wells and Chief of the DEQ's Geological Survey Division. "The DEQ is always willing to meet with citizens and hear their concerns. However, since we did not call this particular meeting, it would have been inappropriate for us to try to dictate its format to our hosts."

Bennett, who hosted a similar private meeting in Lansing on January 13, stated that he had not asked Mayor



Senator Loren Bennett

Oakley to keep the Romulus meeting closed – but went on to add that, in his opinion, Oakley's decision was probably for the best.

"EDS had numerous opportunities to meet with the DEQ behind closed doors and lobby its side of the case," said Bennett. "I just think that those who oppose the EDS projects deserve the same opportunity."

But Witzgall says that Bennett's viewpoint is too limited.

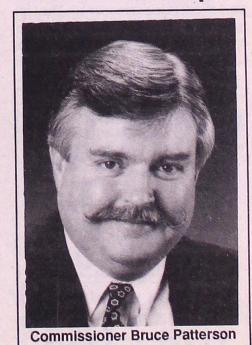
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## Patterson To Run for State Rep

Bruce Patterson, Wayne County Commissionerforthe 11th District (which includes Romulus), has announced that he will not seek reelection in November 1998, but will run for State Representative of the 21st House District, which consists of Canton Township, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, and Belleville. Due to Michigan's term-limits law, Republican Deborah Whyman, who currently holds the 21st District's seat, will be leaving the House at the end of this term.

At a recent press conference, several of Patterson's fellow Republicans stopped by to show their support, including Loren Bennett, Senator for Michigan's 8th District.

"I look forward to having Bruce in the Michigan House of Representatives. He has earned this promotion," said Bennett. "He is a good friend, confidant, and strong voice for good government,



and he absolutely has my strongest endorsement."  $\square$ 

## Guest Commentary

## **Democrats' Tax-cut Proposal Is Better**

By Curtis Hertel, Speaker of the House, and Bob Brown, State Representative for the 16th District

There has been much talk and praise of the tax cut recently proposed by Governor John Engler. However, House Democrats have also proposed a tax cut, and it should not be ignored. It is a better plan than the Governor's, and here is why:

Funding Source: With House Bill 5491, we would take \$1 billion from the \$2.45-billion surplus currently in the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Fund and refund it to Michigan motorists. When drivers purchase auto insurance in Michigan, a portion of the premium they are charged goes to this fund, which in turn is used to reimburse insurers for claims over \$250,000. Actuarial studies have determined that the fund now has a surplus of \$2.45 billion. Returning \$1 billion of that would result in a refund of about \$150 per vehicle. The money in the fund is not designated for any other purpose in State government, so refunding it to motorists would not affect any other aspect of the State's budget.

The Governor has not given any inkling as to how his cut would be financed - and, obviously, the funding is critical. Without details, one can only presume that some program(s) which currently relies on State money would have to be reduced, or a new source of revenue would have to be found.

Timing: Ourplan could be enacted virtually overnight. There would be no long, protracted political battles over how to pay for this tax cut. It is simple and could be accomplished very easily between the House and the Senate.

Notice that the Governor does not want to cut taxes immediately. The first part of his plan would not even be enacted until 2000, and it would take a full five years for it to be implemented.

Perhaps this is because he knows that the State's economy, while certainly very healthy, cannot afford a tax cut right now-unless, like the House Democratic tax-cut plan, it does not affect the rest of the budget.

Commitments: Ourplanwouldbe addressed by the members of the Legislature who are working in Lansing right now. Guaranteed. It is a promise that we know can be kept, not one that we hope will be kept.

The Governor is making a commitment on behalf of people who are not even in office yet. He cannot predict what those who sit in the Michigan House and Senate will support in 2000, and those are the people who will have to say yes or no to his plan. Nor can he predict the economy with any certainty. His proposal is, at best, a hollow promise which relies on what the Legislature might do two years from now.

The Tax Break: Our plan would return about \$150 per vehicle in this state. Immediately. In this year, 1998.

The Governor's plan would return varying amounts, dependent upon such factors as income and family size. Estimates are that it would save the average family of four \$40 in the first year. The year 2000.

A guaranteed \$150 refund, which does not tinker with the State budget, in 1998, or the possibility of a \$40 tax cut, which is dependent on the economy and the will of a future Legislature, in 2000. Which would you rather have?

Editor's note: The purpose of the "Guest Commentary" column is to provide members of the Romulus community and other interested parties with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and do business here. Responsible individuals or spokespersons are invited to use this column at any time.







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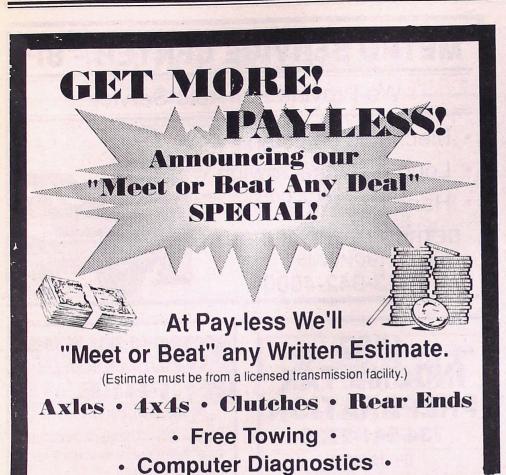
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# **Board of Education Members Honored with Resolution**



(From left) Romulus Board of Education members Ken Berlinn, Eva Webb, Judith Gondek, Mike Woods, Howard Kesner, Julie Oleszkowicz, and Betty Lenossi.

At the January 26 meeting of the Romulus Board of Education, held at Cory Elementary School, Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent of Schools, honored the Board by reading a resolution approved by the Michigan State Board of Education.

The State's resolution recognized the 4,200 locally elected Michigan school board members who "... commit countless hours deliberating difficult decisions about curriculum, budgets,

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"I am particularly proud to confirm the State's resolution for this board of education," Bedell commented. "They are hard-working, dedicated citizens who represent fully every word of this resolution."

The Romulus Board of Education decides the direction of more than \$30 million of local, State, and Federal funds, and oversees the successful implementation of the six primary goals established for the District three years ago. Each board member has also made a commitment to attend County and State committee meetings to keep other Board members aware of changes and improvements in public education.

"They are the best," the Superintendent concluded.

## Closed-door Meeting Angers Residents

continued from page 1

"EDS did not represent my interests to the DEQ any more than RECAP did," she contended. "Those of us who oppose RECAP are not necessarily 'prowell'; most of us could better be described as 'pro-settlement.' We're citizens who are concerned that almost one million of our precious tax dollars have already been spent to fight EDS, with no end in sight. We would prefer to see our officials negotiate an agreement that would stop this drain on our finances and obligate EDS to implement a number of safety measures above and beyond what the State requires."

Witzgall concluded her remarks by thanking the DEQ's representatives — who, upon learning that several citizens had been excluded from the Monday morning meeting, agreed to attend a second, open meeting arranged for later that day. In all, seven citizens (including representatives of the Environmental

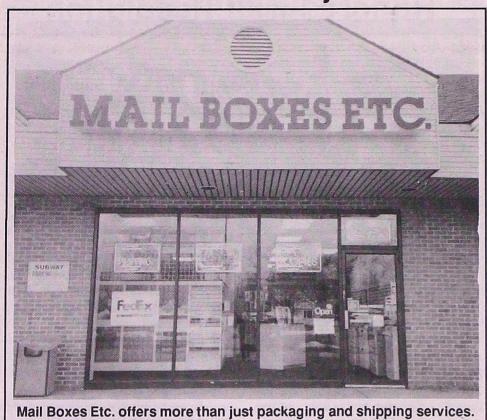
Concerns Association) plus representatives of both *The Romulus News* and *The Romulus Roman* met with the DEQ.

"Mr. Fitch and his colleagues were very accommodating," said Witzgall. "Their frank discussion of what had taken place at the earlier, 'closed' meeting, as well as their obvious willingness to listen to our concerns and answer our questions, was a welcome change from the cloak-and-dagger tactics we had encountered earlier.

"I came away feeling reassured that the DEQ will consider EDS' application objectively, and that its decision to grant or deny the permit will not be influenced by emotion or hysteria, but will instead be based on State law and the proposal's technical merits."

Although EDS owner/President Douglas Wicklund and Vice-president Austin Marshall were contacted to find out whether their company had been invited to the City's meeting, both men declined to comment.

## As Its Name Implies, Mail Boxes Etc. Offers Customers a Variety of Services



By Rikki Strobos

If you're looking for a one-stop shop to take care of a variety of your personal and/or business needs, the new Mail Boxes Etc. on Merriman in Romulus is the place to go. Besides the expected packaging, shipping, and mailing, the store offers facsimile, notary, computerrelated, and black-and-white and color copying services, and also deals in packing supplies, office supplies, and more.

"We offer a convenient alternative to the U.S. Post Office, 'quickie' copy shops, and office supplies," explained Darrell T. Taylor, Director. "We're especially well situated to service clients from the hotels and businesses surrounding Metro Airport."

Taylor's decision to open his new shop was strongly influenced by forecasts for booming development around the Airport.

"We hope to cater to the many new businesses which will be opening near hear in the next few years," he said

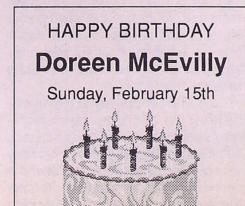


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Taylor, a 29-year-old native of Lincoln Park, now resides in Ecorse. The ex-pro football player for the Washington Redskins and Detroit Drive organizations has a degree from Jackson State University, and currently teaches alternative education at Kettering High School in Detroit. His family includes a daughter, whose nickname is "Popcorn"; his mother, Marjorie Taylor; one sister, Tinetra Taylor; a nephew, Steven Canty II; and grandparents Isaiah and Clara

The always-friendly Taylor and the equally amiable Terence Edwards, President, are looking forward to showing off their new establishment at their upcoming grand opening, set for February 11 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Romulus Mayor William Oakley and Inkster Mayor Edward Bivens are among the officiants expected to attend an 11 a.m. ribboncutting ceremony. Grand-opening activities will continue on Saturday, February 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mail Boxes Etc. #2724, located at 7620 Merriman Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 734-722-0440.



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## **Students Learn About Homelessness The Hard Way**

Earlier in the school year, humanities students at Romulus High School identified homelessness as an issue that they wanted to learn more about. Since that time, they have conducted their investigation through a variety of activities.

On January 8, four students from the High School met with sisters Nikki Nealy and L.A. Shelby, writer and director (respectively) of Ms. Flossy and Friends, a play about the homeless which will be performed on February 20, 1998, at the Clarion Inn in Romulus. The two women hope that their production will help to eliminate stereotypes about homeless individuals. Nealy shared with the students stories and testimonials which illustrated the fact that any of us could become homeless at any time, and inspired the students to continue their pursuit of projects that will create the awareness that homelessness is everywhere.

On January 20, 15 High School students went out into the community to distribute over 3,000 flyers on residents' doors, informing them of an upcoming "scavenger hunt" for much-needed items for local homeless shelters. The students then returned to the community on the announced date to pick up the items which residents who responded to the students' flyer had left on their front porches. Items collected included toiletries, clothing, food, and monetary donations.

"The students were overwhelmed by the community's generous support," said Kathy Hurst, Project SERVE Director at Romulus High School. "The number of items collected was unbelievable!" Exact totals will be tallied and graphed by a math class at the High School, facilitated by Kathy Abdo.

The project received a jump-start during the week of January 12-16, when students held a toiletry drive during lunch hours. Over the course of one week, over 1,000 items were collected.

On the evening of January 24, beginning at 5 p.m., 11 students and five adults simulated a homeless society on the front lawn of the High School. The students spent the night in cardboard boxes and accepted further community donations from 5 p.m. on Saturday until 10 a.m. on Sunday. Students wore signs with homeless-related messages and walked up and down the sidewalk along Wayne Road to share those messages with passersby. Rosalie Berlinn, Media Center Specialist at the High School, organized a monetary-collection site with the students along Wayne Road and collected \$144. Ms. Flossy and cast members from Ms. Flossy and Friends visited the students with food handouts. Parent and professional sto-



Ralph Hacknee prepares his cardboard "home."

ryteller, Phyllis Anderson, participated in the all-night event and told stories as students kept warm around the burning barrels.

The simulation was a learning experience that students will remember for the rest of their lives.

On February 3, students visited the Capuchin Soup Kitchen to talk to the community services director, Ken Dillard, and individuals who came in for the Kitchen's services. All donations were delivered at that time. Students entered the soup kitchen with a better understanding of homeless individuals, and left with even greater knowledge.

These first learning experiences are only the beginning of what the students have planned as they prepare for Romulus High School's annual symposium, to be held on April 29, 1998.

The theme of this year' symposium, humanitarianism, is reflected in the program's title: Humanitarianism-"Students Uniting for the World's Future." Homelessness is only one of the issues to be discussed; other student groups will cover: Domestic Violence; Ethnic and Religious Contributions to Society; Animals are Human, Too; Advocating for Community Service Learning; and Advocating for Women's Rights. Each of these groups will study people who have contributed to society through interviews, field trips, conferences, and community-service activities, as well as through research on the internet and through the media. With their wealth of new knowledge, students will determine how they will then become contributing members of society

The humanities class, facilitated by Serena Fraser and the Project Service Office, has committed to making the Humanitarianism symposium the best

continued on page 6

## **Merriman Student Council Visits Romulus City Hall**

By Gina Carter, Advisor to the Merriman Student Council

On Thursday, January 22, 1998, Merriman Elementary School's student government representatives visited Romulus City Hall.

The students met several key City officials during their tour, including Mayor William Oakley, who answered questions concerning City policies, and Treasurer Pamela Kersey, who talked about her job and its responsibilities.

Finally, following instruction from Finance Director Debbie Hoffman on how to properly conduct a Council meeting, the students had a chance to hold a mock session and make motions on relevant issues.

Thanks to their visit, the students gained a good deal of insight into City government, and learned that every office must continue to work together to keep Romulus open as "the gateway to the world."



Treasurer Pamela Kersey explains her job as Christie Davis (left) and Kristina Scott listen in.

## Students Learn About Homelessness

continued from page 5

yet. If you have any resources or expertise in any of these areas and would like to offer your assistance, please call Kathy Hurst (941-2170, ext. 809). Community members are invited to attend the symposium and can call Hurst for an invitation to attend.

. The students would like to thank

the Romulus City Council, the Romulus Police Department, the Department of Public Works, the Romulus School District, and all of the community members who supported them by dropping off donations of food, clothing, money, and toiletry items. The staff and students who participated in this project are proud to be part of the community of Romulus.

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Write the word(s) that fits definition #1 into the correspondingly numbered box. Next, drop one letter and anagram (rearrange) the remaining letters to find the answer to definition #2. Perform the same drop-a-letter/anagram procedure on word #2 to arrive at the answer to definition #3. Place the first dropped letter in the space to the left of answer #1 and the second in the space to the right of answer #3. Repeat this process on each line of the puzzle. If the puzzle is done correctly, the dropped letters, read from top to bottom, will spell out some timely phrases.

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## **DEFINITIONS**

- 1. Romulus City Councilman
- 2. Killer whale
- 3. Scull or sweep, for example
- 4. Manual "calculator"
- Apparatus for breathing underwater
- 6. Chicago baseball team
- 7. "Meadowlark" of Harlem Globetrotters fame
- 8. Augury; portent
- 9. One of The Three Stooges
- 10. Passed, as time
- 11. Foot-operated levers
- 12. Calyx unit
- General pardon, especially for political misdeeds
- Passionate or erotic, as a love scene from a book or movie
- 15. Domesticates
- 16. Deep \_\_\_\_\_ (Watergate informant)
- 17. Another name for the Pentateuch
- 18. Kon-Tiki author Heyerdahl

- 19. Impoverished; destitute
- 20. Caring for; ministering to
- 21. Lightly colored
- 22. Insane; demented
- 23. Dishonor or disgrace
- 24. Concurred
- 25. Builds; raises
- 26. Top of a hill or wave
- 27. Small faction united by common beliefs
- 28. Certain young birds
- 29. This comes in cloth and paper varieties
- 30. Lash mark
- 31. Protestant laypersons
- 32. Light, slender boats
- 33. It covers more than 70% of the Earth's surface
- 34. Rub away by friction
- 35. Slang term for money
- 36. Minstrel poet
- 37. Gives in; concedes
- 38. Slip or slither
- 39. Told a whopper

## YOU'LL FIND IT IN "ROMANCE"

How many words of five or more letters can you form using only the letters in ROMANCE? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, obsolete and archaic words, slang, poetic words, hyphenated words, contractions, and foreign words are not permitted.

For our list of 18 words, plus the LEAPFROG solution, see page 13

## Plan To Make These Valentine Treats for Your Sweet

By Florine Mark, President/Chairman of the Board of the WW Group, Inc.

Every 14th day of February, Cupid plays his role in the hearts of all of us as restaurants gear up for a long night, Hallmark stores become a montage of red and pink, and flower shops can't fill their orders fast enough.

It's almost Valentine's Day, and with the passing of the holiday season not so long ago and only a month-and-a-half of the New Year under our belts, there is once again a good reason to celebrate.

Since everyone else around town is planning a night out, why not avoid

the crowds and make your Valentine's Day celebration a night in, whether it be with one special someone or a few good friends. For those who do stay in, I've come up with an enticing dinner menu that's not only guaranteed to be delicious, but is also low in fat, too! I've included a cheesy vegetable soup to warm you up, a pasta salad to satisfy all, lemon-broiled chicken with pilaf for the main course, and yummy dessert to finish everything off!

All five recipes will be just as quick and easy to make as they will be to eat!

Who would have thought that dining in could be so much fun!

## **Cheesy Vegetable Soup**

(makes 8 servings)

- 4 ounces wild rice
- 4 cups sliced, fresh, mixed vegetables (mushrooms, carrots, celery, etc.)
- 2 cups frozen, chopped broccoli (one 10-ounce package), thawed and drained
- 2 cups frozen cauliflower florets (one 10-ounce package), thawed and drained
- 4 packets low-sodium, instant chicken broth mix
- 4 cups skim milk
- 11/2 ounces potato flakes
- 51/2 ounces reduced-calorie American cheese, cut into strips
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper

Imitation bacon bits (optional)

In medium saucepan, combine rice with two cups water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover tightly, and cook until tender and water is absorbed, about 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large saucepan, bring 2 cups water to a boil. Add vegetables; cover and cook over mediumhigh heat, stirring occasionally, until just tender, about 5 minutes.

Add cooked rice, broth mix, and milk, cook until heated through but not boiling. Stir in potato flakes, cheese, salt, and pepper.

To serve, ladle evenly into 8 soup bowls; sprinkle with bacon bits if desired.
4 Points.

Per serving: 199 Calories, 14 g. Protein, 3 g. Fat, 30 g. Carbohydrate, 335 mg. Calcium, 533 mg. Sodium, 13 mg. Cholesterol, 3 g. Dietary Fiber.

Source: Weight Watchers: Favorite Home Style Recipes









## Pasta Salad Provencal

(makes 2 servings)

- 21/2 teaspoons olive oil
- 11/2 teaspoons red wine vinegar Dash pepper
- 1 cup cooked shell macaroni, chilled 1/2 cup sugar snap peas, blanched
- 2 ounces drained canned tuna
- (packed in water)
  2 small plum tomatoes, cut lengthwise
- into wedges 2 tablespoons thinly sliced red onion
- 3 large black olives, pitted and sliced 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
- 1 tablespoon rinsed drained capers

Using a wire whisk, in a medium mixing bowl, beat together 1 tablespoon water, the oil, vinegar, and pepper. Add remaining ingredients and toss to coat. Cover; refrigerate until ready to serve.

3 Points.

Per serving: 162 Calories, 11 g. Protein, 7 g. Fat, 14 g. Carbohydrate, 44 mg. Calcium, 273 mg. Sodium, 12 mg. Cholesterol, 2 g. Dietary Fiber. (This figure does not include capers, for which a nutrition analysis is not available.)

Source: Simply Light Cooking: From The Kitchens of Weight Watchers

## Lemon-broiled Chicken

(makes 4 servings)

- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

Four 6-ounce chicken breasts

Preheat broiler. Spray rack in broiler pan with nonstick cooking spray.

In small bowl, combine lemon juice, thyme, rosemary, and pepper.

Carefully loosen skin of chicken. Rub half of the lemon mixture on chicken under skin; reserve remaining mixture. Place chicken skin-side-up on prepared broiler rack; broil 4" from heat, turning once, 10 minutes, until browned and cooked through.

continued on page 13



8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## ROMULUS AUTO REPAIR

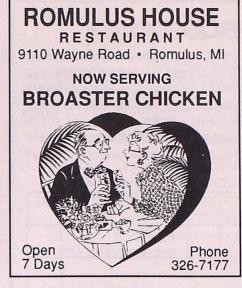
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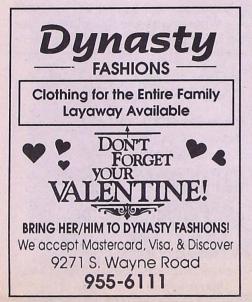
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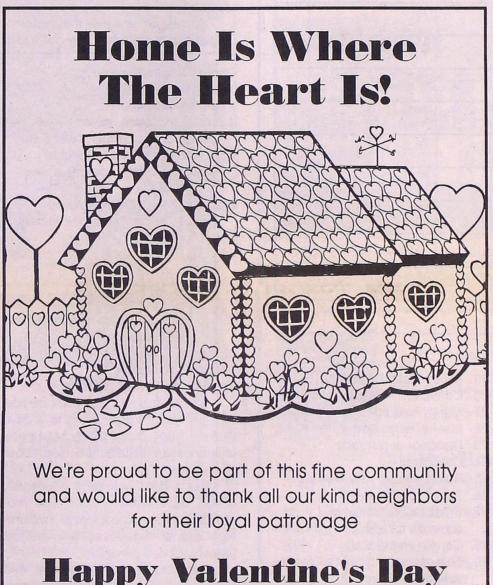
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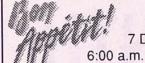
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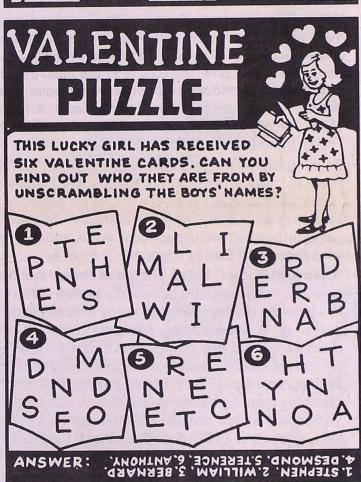
## Community Calendar

- Little League Registration Romulus Little League Baseball will accept registrations for its 1998 season at the Romulus Recreation Department office (located at 36515 Bibbins) on the following dates: Friday, February 6, from 5 to 9 p.m.; and Saturday, February 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$25 per individual or \$40 per family. (Note: All players must sell two cases of candy or pay \$50 extra.) To register youths ages five to 18 (player's age as of July 31, 1998), a parent or guardian must bring an original birth certificate and proof of residence, along with the entire registration fee. No Little League property will be issued without full payment. Early registration is encouraged, since fund-raising money turned in by April 3 earns a bonus! For information, call the Little League office (955-6204), Julie (941-6797), Debbie (942-9261), or Jeannette (941-6147).
- Fools The Huron Civic Theatre (located at 32044 Huron River Drive in New Boston) will present Neil Simon's Fools February 6–7 and February 13–15. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$6 for students/senior citizens. For ticket information and performance times, call the Huron Civic Theatre Box Office: 782-5380.
- Mother/Son Valentine Dance The Romulus Recreation Department will hold its annual Mother/Son Valentine Dance at Romulus Middle School (37300 Wick Road) on Wednesday, February 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost of \$7 per couple (with an additional \$2 charge for each additional son) covers music, refreshments, one picture, and a flower for Mom. Register (only cash will be accepted) at the Recreation office (36515 Bibbins) no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, February 13. For more information, please call 942-6852.
- Bowling Night Will Raise Money for Flyers The Romulus Flyers
   Football League will host a bowling-night benefit at Woodhaven
   Lanes (20000 Van Horn; 675-3554) on Saturday, February 21,
   beginning at 10 p.m. The \$15-per-person donation includes three
   games of bowling (with free shoes), pizza, and door prizes. For ticket
   information, call Dan or Jeannette (941-6147).
- "Colors in Books" Is the Theme of Preschool Storytime The Romulus Public Library's storytime program intended for three- to five-year-old children who are ready for independent listening but are not yet in kindergarten will begin its free winter/spring season of stories, games, and crafts at the Library (11121 Wayne Road, next to City Hall) later this month. Parents can choose between Tuesday evening sessions (7 p.m. from February 24 through March 30) or Thursday morning sessions (10:30 a.m. February 26 through April 1). Space is limited; preregistration is required. For information, call the Library (942-7589) during its normal business hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m.).
- Chili Cookoff/Euchre Tournament You don't have to be a member of the Romulus High School Alumni Association to participate in the organization's 6th Annual Chili Cookoff and Euchre Tournament, set for Saturday, February 28, in Rooms 507 and 508 at the High School. For more information, contact Marge Bergman, Alumni Coordinator, at 941-0610 (day) or 326-0889 (evening).
- Banquet Will Honor Ron Hopson, Person of the Year The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend its 18th annual Person of the Year awards banquet to honor Ron Hopson of Franklin Life Insurance on Friday, March 20, at the Royce Hotel (31500 Wick Road, Romulus). A\$30-per-person donation must be paid at the Chamber office no later than March 11. For more information, call Karan Johnson at 326-4290.

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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## Valentine's Day Tales, Trivia and Traditions

Valentine's Day is for everyone who loves romance. It is one of our oldest -- and most fascinating - holidays. Share the facts

below with your favorite sweetheart:

· That's amoré: During the Middle Ages, Italians would spend Valentine's Day in gardens listening to romantic poetry and music.

· Romantic onions: Believe it or not, onions once held a place in romance. German girls who wished to marry used to tie boys' names to onions, then plant them in a container on Valentine's Day.

The girls believed they'd marry the boy whose name was attached to the first onion to sprout.

· Hand jive: In the old days of France and England, a man would ask for a woman's hand in marriage by giving her gloves on Valentine's Day.

· Jail bird or love bird?: The oldest known Valentine was written in 1415 by a Frenchman who was in prison after being captured by the British.

· Serious sentiments: In 18-th century Europe, people wrote Valentine messages on small cards called "visiting cards."

· Love letters: With the exception of Christmas, Americans exchange more cards on Valentine's Day than any other time of year.

## Romantic Puzzler

Listed below are words and phrases associated with Valentine's Day. How many can you find and circle in the scrambled letter puzzle? The words go horizontally and vertically, backwards and forwards.

KISS						GUPID							
FLOWERS					CARDS								
CANDY						KISS							
HEARTS					POEM								
LOVE					ROMANCE								
K	0	В	0	R	L	C	U	P	I	D	P	P	
I	V	S	H	0	P	A		K	0	0	F	D	
S	E	D	E	M	K	N	L	P	P	V	M	Y	
S	U	R	A	A	Y	D	I	U	L	E	E	E	
P	K	A	R	N	В	Y	Y	T	E	V	0	L	
D	I	C	K	C	L	0	W	F	F	L	P	0	
A	S	K	S	E	Q	S	S	I	K	P	0	P	
H	E	A	R	T	S	S	R	E	W	0	L	F	

VALENTINE'S DAY IS MORE THAN JUST CARDS AND FLOWERS FROM YOUR SWEET-HEART ON FEBRU-ARY 14TH. SOME SAY



THIS DAY WAS ORIGINALLY A CELEBRATION OF TWO THIRD-CENTURY ROMAN MARTYRS, BOTH NAMED ST. VALENTINE. OTHERS SAY THAT THE HOLIDAY IS DERIVED FROM THE ANCIENT ROMAN FEAST OF LUPERCALIA, FOR WHICH YOUNG ROMAN MEN AND WOMEN DREW PARTNERS FOR THE COMING YEAR BY LOTTERY.

## <u>A to Z · SAFETY · A to Z· SAFETY · A to Z</u>

• Electricity: Never touch an electrical outlet or appliance if your hands — or any other part of your body are wet. Be sure wires are in good condition (not frayed or worn) before plugging in.

•Ears: Ears are a very sensitive — and necessary part of your body. Do not put anything in them. If you have an earache, see a doctor.

• Eyes: Always protect them. If an object ever lodges in one of your eyes, don't rub it or you could scratch the cornea. Try closing your eye for a few moments to let your tears wash out the foreign body. Get your vision checked every year.

Z· SAF

• Escalators: Hold onto the handrails and only move in the direction that the escalator is going. Before getting on, make sure your shoelaces are tied and can't be caught in the escalator's grooves.

OT A · YT33A? • S OT A · YT33A? • S OT A

## Answers

answers to puzzles from page 7 LEAPFROG:

1) Crova; 2) orca; 3) oar 4) abacus; 5) scuba; 6) Cubs 7) Lemon; 8) omen; 9) Moe

10) elapsed; 11) pedals; 12) sepal

13) amnesty; 14) steamy; 15) tames 16) Throat: 17) Torah; 18) Thor

19) indigent; 20) tending; 21) tinged

22) deranged; 23) degrade; 24) agreed 25) erects; 26) crest; 27) sect

28) owlets; 29) towel; 30) welt

31) deacons; 32) canoes; 33) ocean 34) abrade; 35) bread; 36) bard

37) yields; 38) slide; 39) lied

"Valentine's Day / candy and roses" YOU'LL FIND IT IN "ROMANCE":

acorn, cameo, caner, canoe, carom, comer, crane, cream, crone, macro, manor, nacre, namer, ocean, roman,

corner, enamor, macron

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If you do not have a qualifying child, are aged 25 to 64, and your income is less than \$9,500, your EIC could be as much as \$332.

## Valentine's Day Treats

continued from page 7

To serve, remove and discard skin from the chicken breasts; place one breast on each of 4 plates. Drizzle each with an equal amount of reserved lemon mixture.

3 Points.

Per serving: 147 Calories, 3 g. Total Fat, 1 g. Saturated Fat, 72 g. Cholesterol, 63 mg. Sodium, 2 g. Total Carbohydrate, 0 g. Dietary Fiber, 26 g. Protein, 20 mg. Calcium.

Source: Weight Watchers: Quick Meals

## Confetti Pilaf

(makes 4 servings)

1 tablespoon + 1 teaspoon margarine 1/2 cup chopped red, green, or yellow bell pepper

1/2 cup chopped onion

1/2 cup drained canned sliced mushrooms

4 ounces long-grain white rice

1 teaspoon low-sodium instant chicken broth mix

teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In small, nonstick skillet, heat margarine. Add bell pepper, onion, and mushroom; sauté until vegetables soften, about 2 minutes.

In 11/2-quart casserole, combine remaining ingredients and 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons water; stir in vegetables. Cover and bake 35-40 minutes, until liquid is absorbed.







Fluff with fork and serve.

3 Points.

Per serving: 156 Calories, 3 g. Protein, 4 g. Fat, 27 g. Carbohydrate, 16 mg. Calcium, 379 mg. Sodium, 0 mg. Cholesterol, 1 g. Dietary Fiber.

Source: Weight Watchers: Favorite

Home Style Recipes

## **Banana Pudding Splits**

(makes 4 servings)

1 cup plain low-fat yogurt

1 envelope (four 1/2-cup servings) reduced-calorie instant chocolate pudding mix (30 calories per serving as packaged)

2 medium bananas (6 ounces each), peeled

1/2 teaspoon lemon juice

1/2 ounce pistachios, coarsely chopped 1/4 cup thawed frozen dairy whipped topping

4 fresh bing cherries\*

In blender, process yogurt on high speed for 30 seconds; add pudding mix and process for 1 minute, scraping down sides of container as necessary.

Cut each banana into 6 diagonal slices and sprinkle with lemon juice.

Arrange 2 banana quarters into each of 4 goblets or dessert dishes; top with 1/4 of the pudding mixture. Sprinkle each portion with 1/4 of the pistachios; then top each with 1 tablespoon whipped topping and 1 cherry.

4 Points.

Per serving: 161 Calories, 4 g. Protein, 5 g. Fat, 28 g. Carbohydrate, 115 mg. Calcium, 296 mg. Sodium, 3 mg. Cholesterol, 1 g. Dietary Fiber.

\*If bing cherries are not available, use 4 maraschino cherries.

Source: Simply Light Cooking: From The Kitchens of Weight Watchers.

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

## SPECIAL MEETING, JANUARY 21, 1998

The Special Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Wednesday, January 21, 1998 was called to order at 5:47 P.M. by Julie A. Oleszkowicz, President. Roll call showed all Members present. All Administrators were present. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Oleszkowicz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

1/98/8 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlinn to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Introduction: Tom Dolan

Mr. Thomas Dolan, Director of Curriculum, updated the Board of Education on the status of the Initiatives and responded to questions posed by members of the Board. Review of Initiatives

Ms. Phyllis Adkins presented for the School Community Committee.

Ms. Linda Cook presented for the Technology Committee.

Mr. Earl Cornett presented for the Preschool Committee.

Mr. Daniel Hurst/Ms. Lynne Mossoian/Mr. Ed Clark presented for the Outcomes and Assessment Committee

Mrs. Jeffery Royal/Ms. Chris Powers presented for the Climate Committee.

## ADJOURNMENT:

1/98/9 Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Betty M. Lenossi, Secretary Romulus Board of Education

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

## **REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 12, 1998**

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, January 12, 1998 was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Julie A. Oleszkowicz, President.

Roll call showed Members Webb and Woods absent. All Administrators were present. Member Webb arrived at 6:07 P.M. and Member Woods arrived at 6:15 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Oleszkowicz. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Executive Session (Lengthy Meeting with Attorney on Negotiations and Litigation) 1/98/2 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlinn to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and litigation. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 5. Nays:

0. Motion carried. The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:05 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 7:10 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

1/98/3 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlinn to approve the Minutes of December 8, 1997 as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources, submitted the following personnel actions for Board approval.

RETIREMENT: Saundra Heinzelman, Teacher, Effective January 23, 1998.

1/98/4 Moved by Berlinn supported by Gondek to approve the personnel actions as submitted by Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to approve the Bills for Payment as submitted by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

1/98/6 Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi to instruct the Law Firm of Keller, Thoma, Schwarze, Schwarze, DuBay and Katz to appeal the Appeals Court Decision, LC96-645207-CZ. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

None.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with the Board of Education: 1) Finance Minutes; 2) School Improvement Action Plan; 3) Preschool Committee Minutes; 4) January Calendar - Technology Office; 5) 1997-98 Goals 2000 Grant Letter; and 6) Technology Committee Minutes.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mr. Kenneth Berlinn will represent the Board of Education on the Romulus Adolescent

Mrs. Judith Gondek commented on the Michigan Professionals of America District Competition that was held at the High School last Saturday.

ADJOURNMENT:

1/98/7 Moved by Gondek supported by Woods that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Betty M. Lenossi, Secretary

Romulus Board of Education

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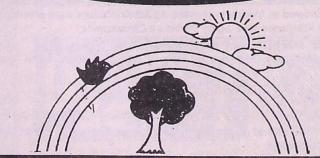
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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.) Happy Birthday!

Best wishes for a wonderful birthday to those of my Tower neighbors born in the month of February: Betty Balcom, Frances Bredow, Maggie Brent, Laura Chesno, Ricky "Butch" Covertt, Bernice Davis, Grace Diller, Hazel Faust, Hepsie Frederick, Thelma Griffin, Alfred Henson, Adeline Hoerl, Jacqueline Meyers, Ruth Murphy, Ida Noble, Shirley Vogler, James Wade, and Madeline Yearly.

## Free Tax Service for Seniors

From now through April 15, AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) volunteers will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12 to 3:30 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040, home-heating, prescription, and property-tax forms.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. For more information, please contact the Center.

## Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday") Events

- Paczkis Make the most of Fat Tuesday's excuse to splurge on February 24, when the Romulus Senior Center will serve fresh paczkis ("poonchkies") two to a customer—and hot coffee from 9 to 10 a.m. Cost is \$1. Sign up at the Center.
- Mardi Gras Luncheon Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday") will be the theme of this month's Senior Luncheon, to be held at the Center at 1 p.m. on February 24. Highlight of the event will be the crowning of a Mardi Grasking and queen. (To enter yourself or a friend in the competition, write a short paragraph explaining why your nominee should be selected for the "royal" honor. Judges will choose the winners from among the funniest/most unusual nominations.) The menu for the meal will be: fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, salad, roll with butter, paczki, and beverage. Deadline for signup is February 20.

## Black History Month Inspires Tour of Museum

The Romulus Senior Center has planned a tour through Detroit's Museum of African-American History on Thursday, February 26, beginning at 10:30 a.m. A cost of \$5 covers transportation, parking, and admission. Sign up at the Center.

## Out To Sea

This month's \$2 movie at the Senior Center – Out To Sea, starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau – will be shown on the Center's big-screen TV at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 27. Refreshments will be served.

## **Craft Classes**

The Center's weekly craft classes resume this month, and will continue fairly regularly on a second-and-fourth-Friday-of-the-month basis. Cost for each class is \$1; supplies are extra. Coming up: "design a pin" – February 13, and "glass plate projects" (using paper doilies, wrapping paper, magazine pictures, photos, etc.) – February 27.

Examples of crafts are on display at the Center. Check on necessary supplies when you preregister.

## **Special Trips**

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Centershould call Linda Norman at 942-6852. (Note: Deposits insure your seat for any bus trip. Complete payment is due at least two weeks prior to departure for day trips; for overnight trips, payment is due at least 30 days prior to departure. Checks may be made payable to either the City of Romulus or the tour company.)

- Soaring Eagle Casino (Wed., Mar. 18; \$20)
- Mardi Gras Casino
   (Mon.-Tue., Mar. 30-31; \$69)
- Mississippi River Gambling (Mon.–Wed., Apr. 20–22; \$152)
- Soaring Eagle Casino (Thu., May 14; \$20)
- Kewadin Casino
   (Tue.-Wed., Jun. 23–24; \$89)
   Sparing Fagle Casino
- Soaring Eagle Casino (Wed., Jul. 22; \$20)
- Branson, Missouri (Mon.–Sat., Nov. 16–21; \$645)

## Commodities Available at the Center

The Romulus Senior Center will be distributing commodities to qualified individuals on the third Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Preregistration (Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; bring proof of income) is required. Next date: February 19.

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## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

## THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038

Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name		
Birthdate	Time	
Weight		
Birthplace		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Parents		
Address		
City	011	Zip
Siblings		
		T - A A -
Maternal Grandparents	ar and a second	
Address		The second second
City	State	Zip
Paternal Grandparents		
Address		
City		Zip
Name and phone number of person to		of questions):
Carl Control of the C		

## ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

## THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Bride's Name				
City	State			
Groom's Name				
City	State			
Bride's Parents				
City	State			
Groom's Parents	70 A. 10 A.			
City				
Bridesmaids				
Groomsmen				
Date of Engagement				
Date of Wedding				
Place				
City	State			
Reception				
City				
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):				

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

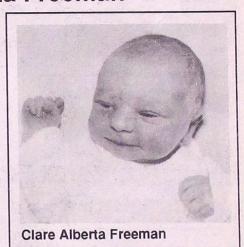
## New Arrival

## Clare Alberta Freeman

Proudly announcing the birth of their new daughter, Clare Alberta, are Brant and Catherine Freeman of Romulus.

Clare was born in Henry Ford Hospital (Detroit, MI) at 2:05 a.m. on Thursday, November 13, 1997, weighing in at six pounds, 11 ounces, and measuring 20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches.

Giving the new arrival the warmest of welcomes were her big sister, Sarah (age four); her grandfather, Tom Freeman (Alamagordo, NM; formerly of Romulus); and her godparents, Debbie Romak (Romulus, MI) and John Downing (Mayville, MI).



## **Obituaries**

## Dorothy "Dot" P. (Cowgill) Icenogle

Dorothy "Dot" P. (Cowgill) Icenogle of Romulus, Michigan, died on Monday, January 26, 1998, at the age of 86.

Dot was born on May 6, 1911, in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Always an active member of the Romulus community, she did long service on the Romulus Recreation Commission; worked elections for the City of Romulus; participated regularly in Romulus Senior Citizens Center programs; and was also involved in organizations such as the American Cancer Society.

Surviving Dot are one son, Bruce (and his wife Cheryl) Icenogle (New

Boston, MI); one daughter, Mrs. Jim (Barbara) Kolman (Southgate, MI); one sister, Marie Kilander (Kalkaska, MI); one grandchild; and one great-grandchild. She was predeceased by her husband Irvin, one son, and one sister.

Funeral services were held on Friday, January 30, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend Bradford Lewis (Community United Methodist Church, Romulus, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to the Methodist Church or the American Heart Association.

## Helene Jerry (Kovach) Pack

Helene Jerry (Kovach) Pack of Romulus, Michigan, died on Thursday, January 29, 1998, at the age of 83.

The General Motors retiree was born in River Rouge, Michigan, on December 8, 1914. She and her husband, Richard A. Pack, were married on September 12, 1952.

Helene is survived by her husband; one brother, Daniel Kovach (Mancelona, MI); and one sister, Mrs. Jules (Teeny) Talagrand (River Rouge, MI). She was predeceased by one brother and one sister.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 31, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend Jim P. James (Dix United Methodist Church, Lincoln Park, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to Penrickton School for the Blind.

## **Hazel Marie Spann**

Hazel Marie Spann of Romulus, Michigan, died on Sunday, January 18, 1998, at the age of 87.

Hazel was born in Vandervoort, Arkansas, on March 12, 1910.

She is survived by four daughters, Patsy (and her husband Daniel) Bumbalough (Romulus, MI), Betty (and her husband James) Robertson (Brighton, MI), Jacqueline (and her husband John) Summers (Garden City, MI), and Peggy (and her husband Robert) Mellencamp

(Eustis, FL); six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 22, at Vermeulen Funeral Home (Westland, MI), with the Reverend Drex Morton (Saint Michael's Lutheran Church, Canton, MI) officiating. Interment was at Parkview Memorial Park (Livonia, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to the American Heart Association.

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